

Committee; USTA Florida Section Schools Coordinator, Community Service Center Board; Coordinator, Mercy Drive/Pine Hills Children & Youth Task Force; City of Orlando's Municipal Planning and Human Relations Boards; Vice Chair BBIF Board; Florida League of Cities Urban Administration, resolution and policy committees and the Board of Directors; Board of Directors for the National League of Cities; and currently she is President of the National League of Cities National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials; first Vice President for Women Elected to Municipal Government; past president of the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials; Metro Plan Orlando Transportation Board; Orange County Voter's League; Life Member NAACP, Nemours Council member; and, 2005 Onxy Magazine Poll names Commissioner Lynum as one of 56 most influential African Americans in the State of Florida.

Commissioner Lynum's commitment to her community, via her professional, personal, and political service is consistent with the principles and standards of her beloved sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.—which she has been a member of since 1966. She has also been a member of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc., an organization of business and professional women, since December 2008.

Commissioner Lynum's primary focus is quality of life through sustainable neighborhoods for residents in District 5 and the City of Orlando. With respect to her expertise in community development and sustainable neighborhoods, Commissioner Lynum has represented Orlando and the United States at conferences in Japan and Africa, and attended the U.S.-China Exchange Association's U.S. Business Matchmaking Conference in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Madam Speaker, as Black History Month comes to a close, it is with great honor that I acknowledge the commitment to Florida that Commissioner Lynum has shown through her many leadership roles in the community. She has been a leader in the African American community and I applaud her social activism.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOANNE D. GIANGRECO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 26, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joanne D. Giangreco, an active member of the Buffalo and Western New York community, who passed away earlier this week at the age of 82.

Born Joanne Downing, Joanne graduated from Bennett High School in 1945, attended St. Joseph College of Emmitsburg, Maryland, and graduated from the University at Buffalo in 1950. She was a gifted athlete, winning an AAU swimming championship in high school as well as playing basketball during her time at St. Joseph College. Joanne continued her athletic career after college as an avid golfer and racquetball player, often beating her older male competitors at the Buffalo Athletic Club.

Indeed, Joanne's athleticism was not limited to her sporting performances. In 1945, as a swimming lifeguard at my own neighborhood's South Park pool, Joanne performed CPR and

saved the life of a toddler who had fallen and hit his head.

A lifelong Democrat, Joanne appeared on WBEN-TV in 1952 to support Adlai Stevenson in his presidential campaign. Her political views were largely influenced by her father, Francis J. Downing, who was the Executive Director of the Buffalo-Area Emergency Relief Bureau and the Works Progress Administration under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Mr. Downing later served as a department head in the administration of Buffalo Mayor Frank A. Sedita.

Joanne was actively involved throughout Western New York, serving as the president of the Buffalo Inter-Club Women's Bowling Association. She was a founding member of St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church in Amherst, was secretary for the St. Gregory Home School Association, and served as chairwoman of Ladies Golf at Cherry Hill. Additionally, Joanne was a volunteer for the American Cancer Society as well as the Girl Scouts.

Joanne, widowed by the passing of her husband Joseph in 2001, is survived by her five children, several grandchildren and her siblings. Indeed, Joanne's son Peter is a trusted and valued friend to me, whose counsel I have sought and have valued since my initial run for Congress in 2004.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the Giangreco and Downing families for their loss, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Joanne Giangreco and recognizing the tremendous impact she had on the lives of those she knew.

IN HONOR OF EDWARD GERSH

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 26, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Edward Gersh, an outstanding and dedicated educator and athlete. A life-long advocate, he has worked to improve the lives and minds of students across New York State.

While attending Dewitt Clinton High School, Mr. Gersh was an all scholastic tackle, which earned him a full scholarship to New York University (NYU) and George Washington University (GW). He briefly attended GW before transferring to NYU. During his sophomore year at NYU, he was injured and unable to continue playing football. He made the transition from football to boxing, eventually winning the New York City Golden Gloves Championship Open Heavyweight Title in 1943, the only Jewish fighter to ever do so, and entering a brief, yet successful, professional boxing career. He was a boxing and wrestling referee for the New York State Athletic Commission. For years, Mr. Gersh trained, managed and promoted professional boxing.

Mr. Gersh began his career in the New York City Public School System as a physical education instructor and an assistant football coach. He also taught physical education and coached boxing at the City College of New York. In 1950, the New York City Board of Education hired Mr. Gersh. Within three years, he was named Dean of Jefferson Park Jr. High School, where he directed the guidance

program and helped countless students achieve their aspirations. He also taught history at the New York Institute of Technology, where he was appointed to the Office of Student Affairs. In 1967 Mr. Gersh became one of the founders and members of the original Board of Trustees of Wilmington College, serving two years as the Executive Vice President. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for Dowling College of Oakland, Long Island for ten years, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Woodstock Day School in Woodstock, NY. Mr. Gersh has received numerous awards for his excellence as an educator, starting in 1960, when he was named "Teacher of the Year" by Youth Development Incorporated. In 2006, he was given the prestigious NYU Steinhardt Distinguished Alumnus Achievement Award. That year he was the commencement speaker for the Steinhardt School of Education at a ceremony that took place at Radio City Music Hall. His impressive dedication to education at all levels deserves our highest praise.

In 1955 Mr. Gersh helped open West Hill Day Camp in Huntington, NY, which he continues to serve as the Chairman of the Board and President. He holds similar titles in E. Gersh Realty Corporation, University Gardens, Okee, LLC, and EG, LLC which owns and manages real estate on Long Island. He is also a founding partner and owner of Crestwood Country Day School, the Woodland Academy, and Camp Kent.

Mr. Gersh's generosity is compounded by his commitment to scholarly achievement. He has established the Edward & Holli Gersh Charitable Foundation, and the Edward Gersh Scholarship at the Steinhardt School at New York University. Mr. Gersh has been hailed as a modern Renaissance Man. His autobiography "A Strong Collected Spirit: A Fighter's Memoir" was published in 2005.

Madam Speaker, I salute the remarkable achievements of Mr. Edward Gersh and I ask my distinguished colleagues in this House to join me in recognizing his extraordinary service and contributions to education.

A TRIBUTE TO ALAN STEINBERG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 26, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to a fine American, Alan Steinberg, on an occasion when he and his business have received a prestigious honor: the International Circle of Excellence Award for 2009.

The Circle of Excellence, which is awarded by the International dealer organization of Navistar, Inc., honors International truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance with respect to operating and financial standards, market representation, and most importantly, customer satisfaction. It is the highest honor a dealer principal can receive from the company.

Alan's business, Truck King International, is headquartered in Brooklyn, New York, where it was founded in 1977 with his brother Steven. Under his leadership, it has grown into one of the preeminent truck dealerships in the Northeast and the entire nation, with 151 employees and six dealer locations spanning the five